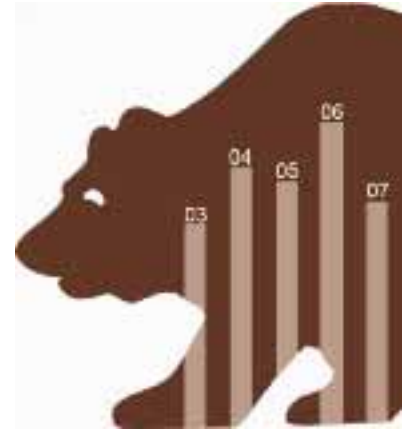

BEAR FACTS

Issues, Trends, Tools, & Information from
California State Parks' Planning Division



July 2007

New Survey of Californians and Their Government

When it comes to Californians' public policy priorities, immigration is leaving other issues in the proverbial dust, according to a survey released in June by the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), supported by funding from The James Irvine Foundation. Although California residents support some of the federal proposals for immigration reform, they have little faith that the Republican president and Democratic-led Congress can work together effectively in the coming year. And they feel the same way about the "post-partisan" circumstances in Sacramento.

Immigration tops just about everyone's list of the most important issues facing California today. This holds true across regions, political parties, racial and ethnic groups, and gender. One-quarter (25%) of all residents name immigration/illegal immigration as the state's most pressing issue. The economy (11%) and health care (8%) lag behind, a distant second and third. Results are almost identical for likely voters (27% immigration, 11% health care, 9% economy). Although Republicans (39%) are far more likely than Democrats (15%) and much more likely than independents (25%) to call immigration the state's most important issue, it still holds first place across parties. It is also the most important issue among Latinos (23%), whites (28%), men (26%), and women (24%). Californians have identified immigration as their most important issue in every PPIC survey since April of 2006. Link to the poll here: www.ppic.org. 


New Projections: 25 Million More Californians by 2050; Latinos/Hispanics to be State's Majority Ethnic Group by 2042

California's population is projected to reach almost 60 million people by 2050, adding over 25 million since the 2000 census, according to long-range population projections released in July by the California Department of Finance.

From less than 34 million Californians counted in that census, the new data series shows that the state will pass the 40 million mark in 2012, and exceed 50 million by 2032.

The new projections reveal that Hispanics are now expected to constitute the majority of Californians by 2042.

By the middle of the century, the projections show that Hispanics will be 52 percent of the state's population, with Whites comprising 26 percent. Asians are expected to be 13 percent; Blacks, 5 percent; and Multirace persons, 2 percent. Both American Indian and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander groups will each make up less than 1 percent of the state by 2050.

Other population reports are available from the Department of Finance's website: <http://www.dof.ca.gov/Research/Research.asp> under Demographic, Economic and Financial Research. 

Governor's budget will help State Parks fix infrastructure

The challenge of decaying infrastructure is neither new nor unique to state parks. Across the state, chronic underfunding of ongoing maintenance, stemming back to the early 1980s, has created a backlog of projects.

"The good news is that the administration and Legislature are providing \$90 million to address these issues and the department is moving forward right now on priority repairs," said California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman.

Projects include upgrading water systems and waste treatment plants that are 30 to 60 years old. That's still enough to tackle some of the most pressing problems, emphasized Ted Jackson, deputy director of park operations for the California State Parks. "Ninety million is a good amount for one year," Jackson said. "And we're able to handle our critical projects."

Gov. Schwarzenegger has an outstanding record of protecting and restoring our environmental resources, to include: establishment of the Sierra-Nevada Conservancy; funding for the environmental remediation and treatment measures at Empire Mine SHP; the Hearst Conservation Plan that preserves more than 82,000 acres, along with the transfer of more than 1,000 acres and 13 miles of Hearst property coastline to State Parks. Also, the Governor supported Prop 84, the 2006 bond initiative that allocates \$400 million to California State Parks for the restoration, rehabilitation and improvement of existing State Park System lands and facilities, expansion of the System and protection of natural resources.

"This latest \$90 million is further commitment to enhancing the system and we are optimistic that we will see another infusion of funds so that all Californians can enjoy our magnificent state parks for generations to come," Coleman said.

Source: Oakland Tribune, 2007-3-27; Contra Costa Times, Commentary, 2007-3-17. 🐻



The 1930s Olmsted Vision continues to inspire parks and recreation in Los Angeles and along the Los Angeles River, including the Los Angeles State Historic Park.

1930 Map of Green L.A. Inspires Urban Vision for Healthy Parks, Communities

In 1930, the firm started by the sons of Central Park designer Frederick Law Olmsted presented officials with a map showing a green Los Angeles criss-crossed with hundreds of square miles of parkland.

The report warned that, unless his leafy vision of Los Angeles was implemented, the region would become unlivable, strangled by sprawl.

But the city lacked the vision and organization to execute Olmsted's blueprint for a green utopia, and it was shelved.

The thousands of acres of proposed parkland were paved over, leaving the city of Los Angeles with few parks, particularly in its poor, urban neighborhoods.

Based on the 1930's Olmsted Vision, the Los Angeles City Project released a 2006 policy report to implement a "collective vision to achieve equal justice, democracy, and livability for all" while creating healthy, livable communities.

(continued page 3)

The policy report *Healthy Parks, Schools, and Communities: Mapping Green Access and Equity for the Los Angeles Region* is a guide for creating healthy, livable communities for all.

Volunteers from this Los Angeles group were involved in stakeholder efforts to help create community support for the Los Angeles State Historic Park, Río de Los Angeles State Park, and Baldwin Hills in the historic African American heart of Los Angeles.

In addition, the community group supported Ascot Hills Park in East L.A., and is working with the Alianza de los Pueblos del Río, and other public open spaces along California's beaches and throughout the Santa Monica Mountains and the four forests of Southern California.

The policy report provides a positive vision to:

- Revitalize Los Angeles & San Gabriel Rivers;
- Create healthy parks & schools;
- Improve health & reduce diabetes;
- Invest billions of dollars in infrastructure bond;
- Promote economic vitality, local jobs & affordable housing;
- Engage & empower communities.

According to the report, many parts of Los Angeles are park poor, and there are park, school, and health disparities.

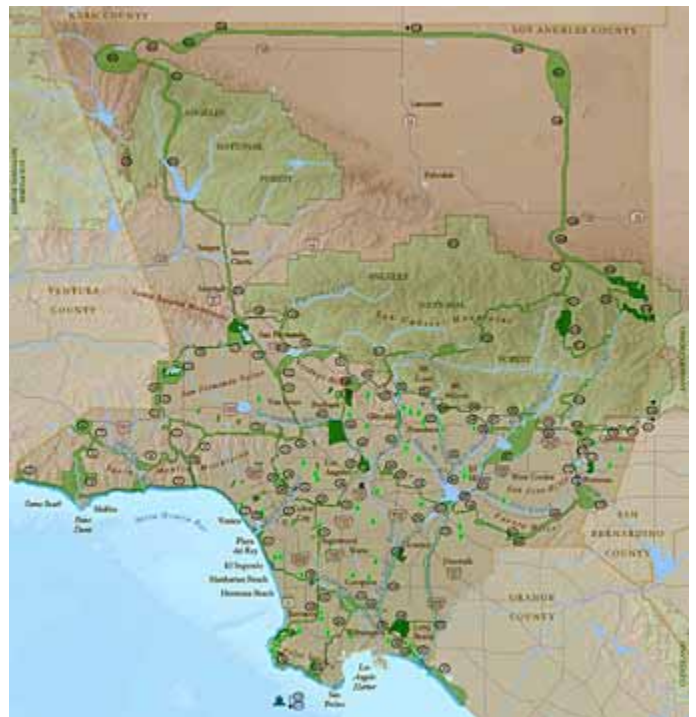
The City Project's policy report provides GIS mapping, demographic and historical analyses, and policy and legal justifications for healthy parks and communities.

The report supports a vision for parks, school fields, rivers, beaches, mountains, forests, and natural public places to promote healthy, livable communities for parks, recreation and beaches for the Los Angeles region.

The revitalization of the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers can provide multiuse projects for parks, schools, clean water, and flood control, create jobs and affordable housing, and avoid gentrification.

The Los Angeles River will link the Los Angeles State Historic Park, Río de Los Angeles State Park, El Pueblo de Los Angeles, the Los Angeles River, and more than 100 other recreational, cultural, historical, and environmental sites.

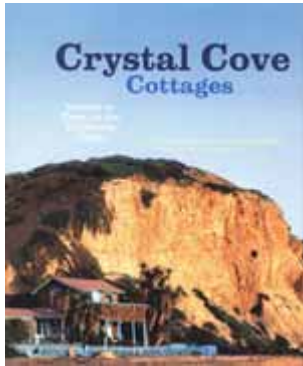
This is a landmark plan for river revitalization and for children living in urban areas with little or no access to parks where obesity levels are intolerably high for children — from 23 to 40% in every neighborhood.



The 1930 map of the Olmstead Vision

The 2006 report is inspired in part by the 1930 Olmsted plan for parks, playgrounds and beaches for the Los Angeles region. Olmsted recommended 71,000 acres of parkland, and another 92,000 acres in outlying areas, with 440 miles of connecting parks and parkways, including a parkway along the Los Angeles River. Olmsted proposed the joint use of parks, playgrounds, and schools to make optimal use of land and public resources, and called for the doubling of public beach frontage.

High quality maps are also available with the report at the source: www.cityprojectca.org 



Coastal Camping

State Parks estimates that over the next ten years, an additional 6,500 campsites may be needed to keep up with demand. See the State Park System Plan online at http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=24512.

Today, there are about 6,000 campsites within the coastal zone with 25 percent (1,488) of the coastal campsites in San Luis Obispo; 14 percent (864) in San Diego; 5 percent (258) in Los Angeles; and 6 percent (373) in Orange County. The demand for all campsites at State Parks grew by approximately 13% between the years 2000 and 2005. Crystal Cove State Park also increased overnight accommodations by providing beach-side cottages for overnight visitors.

Source: Coastal Commission:

www.coastal.ca.gov/legal/condo-hotels.pdf 🐼

Governor's Ocean Action

The Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE) reports honoring Govs. Schwarzenegger (CA), Theodore Kulongoski (OR) and Christine Gregoire (WA) on their "West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health," a "bold step in advancing responsible stewardship of our oceans." The consortium says Rear Admiral Dick West (US Navy, retired) presented a plaque to representatives of the three governors at an event in Washington DC in June. Resources Secty. Chrisman accepted the award on behalf of Gov. Schwarzenegger. See their website at: www.westcoastoseans.gov, sponsored by CA, WA and OR, where stakeholders may submit comments to staff of the three governors as they develop an action plan expected to be released this fall. 🐼



Downtown L.A.: Los Angeles State Historic Park

Los Angeles State Historic Park: in city's most diverse and park-poor communities

When Ruth Coleman announced the official opening of Los Angeles State Historic Park in 2006, it became one of the first open space/recreation complexes developed by California State Parks in downtown Los Angeles helping to fulfill a vision to create a network of parks alongside the L. A. River. Urban parks have historically played a pivotal role in shaping the success of cities by bringing residents and visitors environmental enrichment, educational, cultural, and recreational opportunities, and enhancing urban communities. This is one of the city's most diverse and park-poor communities. ***More than 14 different languages are spoken in and around the adjacent neighborhoods. Nearly 29,000 multi-ethnic and multi-generational people reside within a one-mile radius.*** The site's history as a cornfield in the 19th century and as the location of the city's original aqueduct presents opportunities for learning. The transcontinental railroad once ended here, leading many to refer to this site as the "Ellis Island" of L. A. A rail transit station is planned to be located at the in the vicinity of the property, making it easily accessible to millions of low-income, transit-dependent families, senior citizens, youths, persons with disabilities, and children from across urban Los Angeles. Source:

www.parks.ca.gov/default.asp?page_id=22272

Photo courtesy: www.cityprojectca.org 🐼

Historic State Park Development

What California State Park had overnight lodges and cabins available in the early 1900s?

•**Big Basin Redwoods State Park (SP)**, the oldest state park (est. 1902) has structures and campground facilities built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that feature rustic and historical character. Representing the distinct architectural style of the CCC is an outdoor theater built by the CCC in 1935. Waddell Creek and Rancho del Oso in Big Basin have examples of the rustic architecture created or modified in the 1930s by the CCC. At least four of these structures are worthy for a National Historic Landmark (the Park HQ, the Store, Big Basin Lodge, and the Campfire Center). There are many other structures and features built or renovated by the CCC along Opal Creek and Blooms Creek and in the area of Big Basin HQ.

•**Columbia State Historic Park (SHP)** has two hotels, the City Hotel and Fallon Hotel. Columbia became a state historic park in 1945 but historic sites date back to 1852. Columbia had 150 stores, shops, saloons in the old business district. During the 1920's the idea began to include Columbia into the new and growing State Park System and in 1928, Frederick Olmsted included Columbia in his survey of possible park sites.

•**Fort Humboldt SHP** has a Loggers Cabin and the historic reconstruction of buildings, such as the logging museum. This remote military post was established in 1853.

•**Asilomar State Beach** and Conference Grounds began in 1913 as a camp and conference site for the YWCA. Its historic buildings were designed by architect Julia Morgan. Owned and operated by the State since 1956, there are about 313 non-camping facilities on the Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove.

•**Mendocino Woodlands SP** campfire centers were built by the CCC in 1938; the two-and four-bedroom cabins are examples of rustic park architecture that has retained its exterior integrity, while the historic fabric of the interior has been mostly lost.

•**Mount Tamalpais SP** has ten rustic cabins that were originally constructed in the 1940s.

Other facilities also built during the early 1900s.

•**Humboldt Redwoods SP** campfire center, built in 1935, the CCC provided the early development of the park.

•**Pfeiffer Big Sur SP** campfire center was built by the CCC in 1937 and 1938.

•**Prairie Creek Redwoods SP** also has a CCC built campfire center (1939).

•**Point Montara Light Station**, established in 1875, is an historic lighthouse and turn-of-the-century buildings have been preserved and restored and provides accommodations in the former lighthouse keeper's quarters. The-century-old buildings were preserved and restored to add a mix of private rooms and traditional dorm-style accommodations as a hostel.

•**Pigeon Point Light Station SHP** is also a hostel. The lighthouse has guided mariners since 1872.

•**Torrey Pines State Reserve** preserved the home office where then Director of the Southern California Section of CA Beaches and Parks, Guy L. Fleming, who played a key role in the development of the CCC's legacy that can also be seen at such Southern California State Parks and Beaches as **San Clemente, Doheny, La Purisima, Mount San Jacinto, Anza-Borrego, Palomar Mountain, and Cuyamaca Rancho.**

For more information: Joseph H. Engbeck, Jr.'s *"By the People, for the People: The Work of the Civilian Conservation Corps in California State Parks, 1933-1941"*.

Sources: California State Parks General Plans: www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=21312

Stat Report: www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=23308 

California Celebrates First “Thank You Ocean Day”

California celebrated its first annual “Thank You Ocean Day” on June 8, 2007 to coincide with the internationally-recognized “World Ocean Day.”

Gov. Schwarzenegger proclaimed June 8 as Thank You Ocean Day. Thank You Ocean Day is designed to encourage public involvement and provide information about how to help protect Pacific Ocean health and resources.

“Thank You Ocean Day recognizes the role that all Californians play in protecting our precious ocean resources,” said Secretary for Resources Mike Chrisman.

People were encouraged to use Thank You Ocean Day as an opportunity to make a difference in ocean health by participating in a beach cleanup, writing lawmakers about ocean protection, or recycling.

The Thank You Ocean campaign is coordinated by the Resources Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and is supported by the California Ocean Communicators Alliance, a network of more than 150 ocean-related organizations, agencies and businesses in the state who communicate ocean protection messages to millions of Californians.

It strives to instill a sense of personal connection and responsibility to California’s ocean and coast through educational outreach. Recent environmental studies have brought deteriorating ocean health to the attention of the public. California’s Ocean Action Plan, released by Gov. Schwarzenegger in 2004, specifically called on California to launch an ocean and coastal stewardship campaign to increase awareness about ocean issues. Similarly, the U.S. Ocean Action Plan calls for increased public awareness, a national priority for NOAA

and for the National Marine Sanctuary Program.

No matter where you live in California you can impact the ocean... for better or worse. Rivers, streams, and wetlands make their way to the sea, carrying pollutants with them. Keeping our inland areas clean is just as vital as a clean seashore.

There are actions we all can take every day that can help to keep our ocean a healthy and thriving place.

■ Bring your own reusable cup for your morning coffee or latte, because disposable cups can end up as marine debris.

■ Never flush your out of date prescriptions or kitty litter down the toilet—they can end up in the ocean and kill marine life.

■ Keep trash and chemicals out of storm drains. This includes pet waste.

■ Stop using plastic bags. Carry your own cloth bag to the store.

■ Cut up plastic 6-pack rings before you recycle, or choose to buy items that are not packaged with 6 pack rings.


■ Avoid products with excess packaging.

■ Buy fresh and local products.

■ Check your car for oil leaks, and get them fixed.

■ Invest in a reusable water bottle instead of plastic one-use bottles.

■ Choose the seafood you eat responsibly; check the latest sustainable choices at <http://www.mbayaq.org/cr/seafoodwatch.asp> and carry this guide in your wallet.

For a full list of Thank You Ocean Day actions and to learn more about the Thank You Ocean campaign, visit www.thankyouocean.org. 

Summer 2007 Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights and Proclamation by Governor

Spending time in the great outdoors can be a wonderful experience for people of all ages, and this is especially true for our youth.

Participating in outdoor activities is not only an enjoyable way for kids to get the exercise they need, it also helps them develop a greater appreciation for our magnificent environment.

To promote increased involvement in outdoor activities, the California Roundtable on Recreation, Parks & Tourism www.calroundtable.org a volunteer group comprising public and private organizations from the federal, state and local levels – has created the Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights that provides that every child between the ages of four and fourteen should have the opportunity to:

- 1 Discover California's past
- 2 Splash in the water
- 3 Play in a safe place
- 4 Camp under the stars
- 5 Explore nature
- 6 Learn to swim
- 7 Play on a team
- 8 Follow a trail
- 9 Catch a fish
- 10 Celebrate their heritage

"I encourage parents, educators and other concerned citizens to do all they can to help our state's children experience and enjoy the wonders of Mother Nature – and there is no better place to experience them than right here in our beautiful Golden State," said Gov.

Schwarzenegger in his July 6, 2007 proclamation recognizing the "Children's Outdoor Bill of Rights" and encouraging children's participation in outdoor activities during the summer months.

Source:

<http://gov.ca.gov/index.php?/proclamation/6883/>



Internet and American Life Project: sorting out information technology users

The Pew Internet and American Life Project found that fully 85% of American adults use the Internet or cell phones – and most use both. Many also have broadband connections, digital cameras and video game systems. Yet the proportion of adults who exploit the connectivity, the capacity for self expression, and the interactivity of modern information technology is a modest 8%.

These findings come from the Pew Internet Project's typology of information and communication technology (ICT) users. The typology categorizes Americans based on the amount of ICTs they possess, how they use them, and their attitudes about the role of ICTs are in their lives.

Fully half of adults have a more distant or non-existent relationship to modern information technology. Some of this uncertainty to technology is driven by people's concerns about information overload; some is related to people's sense that their gadgets have more capacity than users can master; some is connected to people's sense that things like blogging and creating home-brew videos for YouTube is not for them; and some is rooted in people's inability to afford or their unwillingness to buy the gear that would bring them into the digital age.

The Pew Internet and American Life Project found that adult Americans are broadly divided into three groups: 31 percent are elite technology users, 20 percent are moderate users and the remainder have little or no usage of the Internet or cell phones. The data for the Project's typology of ICT users was gathered through telephone interviews conducted by Princeton Survey Research Associates between February 15 and April 6, 2006, among a sample of 4,001 adults, aged 18 and older.

Find out which category you fall under:

<http://www.pewinternet.org/quiz>





Bear Facts

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Quotes of Note:

"In our environmental economy, we can protect both. We can protect the environment and the economy, and that's something that I've been saying now for years. People don't believe that a lot of times. They believe that you have to choose between the economy and the environment. But we have proven in California that we can do both, protect the environment and the economy." **Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger** at the Council on Foreign Relations Board meeting: <http://gov.ca.gov/index.php?/speech/5875/>

"Working together, we can continue to restore, preserve, and enhance California's natural resources and provide access and recreation for both Californians and visitor to our state."

Mike Chrisman, Secreatry for Resources, announcing river parkway grants: http://www.resources.ca.gov/press_documents/riverparkways.pdf

"The Governor reminded Californians of his philosophy that 'we must leave the State a better place than we found it.' We applaud the Governor for that reminder because that is exactly what we in State Parks strive to do every day." **Ruth Coleman**, Director: <http://gov.ca.gov/index.php/blog/category-env-energy> 

An interview with AARP's CEO on 50+: Igniting a Revolution to Reinvent America:

Few people think more about the aging of America than William D. Novelli. As chief executive of AARP, the mammoth membership and advocacy group for older Americans, Mr. Novelli grapples daily with the political and social implications of the country's changing demographics. He believes the social changes that will be ushered in by what he calls the "50+ generation" — especially the huge wave of baby boomers that are beginning to enter their 60s — will rival those of the Industrial Revolution and the digital revolution. "With increased longevity adding vital and productive years to our extended lives, we have come to an important crossroads," he writes in his new book, *50+: Igniting a Revolution to Reinvent America* (St. Martin's Press). "In front of us is an unprecedented opportunity to make changes that will not only improve our own lives but also make our country stronger."

You write that the 50+ generation will lead social change on a par with the Industrial Revolution or digital revolution. Can you expand on that?

"This is a demographic revolution, but it's unique in world history. There's not going to be another boomer cohort, at least there's not any on the horizon. These are not people who are steelworkers and ditch diggers. These are people who are knowledge workers."

Ninety percent of our population are people who are working with their heads. If you add all these different things up, what you have is a time of real profound change. Now we're always going to be attracted to youth. But the truth of the matter is, where the bulk of the population is tends to be where the fulcrum is in society. And the bulk of the population is moving into its older years. So this is a revolutionary time."

Source: *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*: www.philanthropy.com 